

**AMENDED CLAIMS**

[(received by the International Bureau on 08 June 2005 (08.06.05);  
original claim 1 replaced by new claim 1; remaining claims unchanged (1 page)]

1. A handle assembly comprising a handle, a handle spigot to which the handle is attached, biasing means to bias the handle to a naturally closed position, an operating plate which is rotatable by the handle spigot, a mounting stock, and a housing, the spigot, biasing means, operating plate and a majority of the mounting stock being positioned within the housing, the mounting stock being securable to the housing to hold all the components within the housing.
- 10 2. The handle assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the handle comprises a lever handle that may be a left-hand leave the handle or a right-hand lever handle.
- 15 3. The handle assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the handle spigot comprises a head portion and an elongate tail portion, the head portion adapted to fit to the handle.
- 20 4. The handle assembly as claimed in claim 3, wherein the head portion is angled and fits within a socket or recess in the handle.
5. The handle assembly as claimed in claim 3, the tail portion is substantially tubular or cylindrical in configuration and has a length of between 10-100 millimetres and a diameter of between 4-20 millimetres, and has an internal configuration to engage with a conventional spindle.
- 25 6. The handle assembly as claimed in claim 5, wherein the tail portion is provided with engagement means to engage with or to the operating plate.
- 30 7. The handle assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein the tail portion has a slot/groove/recess to engage with a projection on the operating plate, or the tail portion is provided with a projection and the operating plate is provided with a corresponding slot/groove/recess.